

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed November 2, 2006, the Examiner rejected the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of the Sanderson reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,279,906), the Matsuyama et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,767,282), the Woolston reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,162,123), the Yasue et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,189,053), the Childs et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,623,545) and the Lum et al. reference (U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0224763) or some combination thereof. By this paper, the Applicant has amended the claims of the pending application to highlight the subject matter that the applicant believes is allowable over the art of record. Hence, reconsideration of the above-captioned application in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein is now respectfully requested.

After reviewing the art of record, the Applicant notes that the art of record fails to teach or disclose the concept of a system for use with a computer application which is configured to respond to a first input device with signals having a first format and a first range of values that is configured to be used with a second input device that has a second format of signals and a second range of values wherein there is a processor that is adapted to use a conversion factor that correlates the first and second formats and range of values whereby the second format and range of values is converted into the first format and range of values. In general, the art cited by the Applicant, *See, e.g.*, the Matsuyama and Sanderson references, discloses an input device that can be used with the pre-existing game, however, the output signals of the new input device are matched from the output device with the corresponding range and format of the input device. Specifically, the controllers that are adapted to be used with the new game are specifically configured to be used with the new game such that their output signals are already in a format and range that is capable of controlling the game.

In marked contrast, the Applicant's invention which, in one specific embodiment, comprises a golf simulator game that is originally adapted to be used in conjunction with a mouse as the first input, uses a second input which, in this case is a device that actually measures a golf club hitting a simulated ball. The differences in the format and also the range of the signals between the original mouse input and the new golf ball input that is being used is substantial. The Applicant utilizes a conversion process and, in particular a conversion factor, that is separate from the new input device such that input devices having very different outputs

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can be correspondingly matched to the original input format and range so that the new device can be used in conjunction with the computer application. Such a process allows for a wide variety of different inputs to be used in basically an off-the-shelf configuration without requiring the new input devices to be specifically programmed to output a signal that corresponds to the expected input signal of the computer application or game. Consequently, greater variety can be provided in terms of inputs to the game without a significant increase in cost.

The Applicant does not believe that any of the references cited by the Examiner teach the combination as defined by Claim 1 as amended and, therefore, believes that Claim 1 as amended is allowable over the art of record. The Applicant has further amended Claims 20, 36, 46, 56 and 65 to incorporate similar limitations. The Applicant further believes that the remaining claims define additional patentable subject matter and are further allowable due to their respective dependencies on these independent claims. The Applicant therefore believes that the above-captioned application is in condition for allowance and requests the prompt allowance of the same. Should there be any impediment to the prompt allowance of this application that could be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the number shown below.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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